



INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FORUM

May 6, 2002

Hon. E. Clay Shaw  
Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee  
Subcommittee on Social Security  
2408 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Shaw:

The Independent Women's Forum strongly believes in comprehensive reform to strengthen our Social Security system and to make safe the retirement of America's working women and men.

In February, I had the opportunity to appear before you and the House Subcommittee on Social Security to affirm the need for overall reform and to discuss some current inequities in the system. I specifically pointed out that women are financially disadvantaged under the current Social Security system. Women who interrupt their careers for family obligations, women who earn more than their husbands, and widows of wage earners fall into these disadvantaged categories.

You are attempting to correct inequities toward women through the introduction of H.R. 4069, the Social Security Benefit Enhancements for Women Act of 2002. We commend you, Mr. Chairman, for your recognition of these and other problems; and we hope that your leadership will show the way to a newly reformed and significantly strengthened Social Security system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Nancy Pfotenhauer'.

Nancy Mitchell Pfotenhauer  
President